

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A heavy duty rotary concrete mixing drum for coupling to a vehicle having a powered drivetrain for rotating the drum, the drum comprising:

a wall including an inner surface defining a volume; and

at least one projection integrally formed as a single unitary body with the wall and extending from the inner surface of the wall, the projection including a tapered base region proximate the inner surface of the wall, and an intermediate region, and an end region;

wherein the end region includes a support member and a plurality of spacers substantially surrounding the support member, and wherein the support member and the plurality of spacers are embedded within the end region.

21. (Original) The mixing drum of claim 20, wherein the projection and the wall are integrally formed as part of a single unitary body.

22. (Original) The mixing drum of claim 20, wherein the width of the tapered base region decreases as the base region extends further from the inner surface of the wall.

23. (Original) The mixing drum of claim 20, wherein the tapered base region extends approximately five inches from the inner surface of the wall.

24. (Original) The mixing drum of claim 20, wherein the width of the tapered base region proximate the inner surface of the wall is approximately six inches.

25. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim 20, wherein the tapered ~~of the~~ base region is radiused.

26. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim 25, wherein the radius of the tapered base region is constant.

27. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim 25, wherein the radius of the tapered base region is no less than 10 mm.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim [[29]] 20, wherein the support member is torsionally flexible.

31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim [[31]] 30, wherein each spacer includes an outside diameter and an inside diameter when ~~the~~ each spacer is wrapped around the support member.

33. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim 32, wherein at least a portion of the outside diameter of each spacer lies on ~~the~~ an outer surface of the projection formation.

34. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim 20, wherein the projection formation extends around the inner surface of the wall in the form of an archimedian spiral.

35. (Original) The mixing drum of claim 20, wherein the wall comprises an inner layer and an outer layer.

36. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim 35, wherein the inner first layer [[is]] comprises an elastomeric material.

37. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim 36, wherein the outer layer [[is]] comprises a fiber-reinforced composite material.

38. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim 37, wherein the projection formation is integrally formed with the inner layer.

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

41. (Original) The mixing drum of claim 20, wherein the wall includes an opening.

42. (Original) The mixing drum of claim 41, further comprising a hatch cover releasably coupled to the opening in the wall.

43. (Currently Amended) The mixing drum of claim 20, further comprising a drive ring coupled to the wall, the drive ring ~~being~~ configured to couple the drum to the powered drivetrain of the vehicle.

44. (Original) The mixing drum of claim 43, wherein the drive ring comprises a hub configured to be coupled to the powered drivetrain of a vehicle and a plurality of hollow extensions extending radially outwardly from the periphery of the drive ring into the wall of the drum.

45-67. (Canceled)